#### **DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**

#### DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

Adoption of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000), and Amendment of Sections 9846, 10125, and 10564, Division 4, Title 9, California Code of Regulations

#### COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION

#### **Text of Proposed Regulations**

# AMEND DRIVING-UNDER-THE-INFLUENCE SECTION 9846 ONLY AS SHOWN BELOW IN STRIKEOUT AND UNDERLINE:

#### § 9846. Staff Qualifications and Functions.

- (a) The DUI program administrator shall have the following minimum experience and/or education:
  - (1) Two years of experience providing alcohol and/or other drug treatment or recovery services;
  - (2) One year of experience supervising personnel; and
  - (3) One year of experience managing an accounting system, or preparing or directing the preparation of budgets or cost reports. Satisfactory completion of two college-level courses in accounting may be substituted for the one year of experience required in this subsection. As used in this regulation, "satisfactory completion" means attainment of a grade "C" or better.

# NECESSITY: Replaced by new (c)

- (e)(b) Program staff who conduct educational sessions shall have a minimum of two years of experience in providing alcohol and/or drug education and information to persons with alcohol and/or other drug problems in a classroom setting.
- (c) <u>Until January 1, 2005, pProgram staff</u> who conduct individual or group counseling sessions, intake interviews, face-to-face interviews, or assessments of participants' alcohol and/or other drug problems shall have a minimum of two years of experience in providing counseling services to persons with alcohol and/or other drug problems. Beginning January 1, 2005, program staff who

provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall be licensed, certified, or registered to obtain certification pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000).

NECESSITY: Needed to phase out existing requirements. Needed to maintain consistency with Chapter 8 and to improve quality of counseling services provided.

(d) Program staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall comply with the code of conduct, pursuant to Section 13060, developed by the organization by which they were certified or registered. The licensee shall report violations of the code of conduct to the certifying organization which certified or registered the individual within three (3) working days of receipt of a complaint.

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants**

- (e) Volunteers may assist in conducting educational sessions, group counseling sessions, intake interviews, face-to-face interviews, or assessments of alcohol and/or other drug problems.
  - (1) <u>Until January 1, 2005, Volunteers</u> shall be under the direct supervision of a staff member who meets the requirements of Subsections (b) and (c) of this regulation.

# **NECESSITY: Needed to implement requirements of Chapter 8**

(2) Effective January 1, 2005, volunteers shall be under the direct supervision of a staff member who is licensed or certified pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000).

# **NECESSITY: Needed to ensure quality of services**

- (2) (3) Volunteers shall not provide services unless the supervising staff member is present in the room during the provision of services.
- (f) The program may employ interns to conduct educational sessions, individual or group counseling sessions, intake interviews, face-to-face interviews, or assessments of alcohol and/or other drug <u>problems</u>. Prior to employing interns, the licensee shall provide the Department with a description of its intern program, which shall comply with following requirements:
  - (1) <u>Until January 1, 2005, linterns</u> may not comprise more than twenty percent of the program's counseling staff.
  - (2) <u>Effective January 1, 2005, t</u>The licensee shall designate a staff member who meets the requirements of sub-section (a)(2), (b) and (c) of this regulation

been licensed or certified pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000) as the coordinator of its intern program.

# NECESSITY: Needed to implement and maintain consistency with Chapter 8

- (3) Interns must have completed a minimum of one semester, including at least nine post-secondary semester units, at an AOD studies program at an institution accredited by the State of California Bureau for Private Post Secondary and Vocational Education or by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. The licensee shall maintain in the intern's personnel record a copy of the intern's transcript verifying completion of the required units.
- (4) Prior to conducting services without direct supervision, each intern shall observe at least three hours of face-to-face interviews, 12 hours of educational classes, and 20 hours of group counseling sessions conducted by staff who meet the requirements of (b) and (c) of this regulation. The licensee shall document the sessions in the intern's personnel record.
- (5) The intern coordinator shall provide individual progress reviews with each intern on a weekly basis as long as the intern is employed as an intern or until the intern meets the requirements of (b) and (c) of this section. The licensee shall document individual progress reviews in the intern's personnel record.
- (6) Administration and associated costs of interns may be allocated over as many AOD treatment programs within a given agency as use interns, proportionate to the number of interns used by each program.
- (f) One year of college-level education, which includes the satisfactory completion of at least 12 semester units or the equivalent of AOD studies, psychology, counseling, social work, or a related field, may be substituted for one year of the experience required in Subsection (a)(1), (b), or (c) of this regulation. As used in this regulation, "one year of college-level education" means satisfactory completion of a minimum of 24 semester units or the equivalent of classroom instruction provided by an accredited or approved, public or private, post-secondary institution of higher learning.
- (g) As used in this regulation, "one year of experience" means 1,776 total hours of full or part time, compensated or uncompensated, work experience.
- (h) Program staff that conduct face-to-face, counseling or educational sessions shall attend six hours of training per year related to provision of alcohol and/or drug program services, detection of AOD use, identification and referral of co-occurring disorders, etc., as determined by the licensee.

- (g) The licensee shall maintain personnel records for all staff who are required by the licensee to provide one or more of the core counseling functions covered by this regulation, including DUI program administrators, containing:
  - (1) Name, address, telephone number, position, duties, and date of employment; and
  - (2) Resumes, applications, and/or transcripts documenting work experience and/or education used to meet the requirements of this regulation.
  - (3) Personnel records for staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall also contain:
    - (A) Written documentation of licensure, certification, or registration to obtain certification pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000); and
    - (B) A copy of the code of conduct of the registrant's or certified AOD counselor's certifying organization pursuant to Section 13065.

**NECESSITY: Needed to maintain consistency with Chapter 8** 

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11755 and 11836.15, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 11836.15, Health and Safety Code.

# AMEND NARCOTIC TREATMENT PROGRAM SECTION 10125 ONLY AS SHOWN BELOW IN STRIKEOUT AND UNDERLINE:

#### § 10125. Counselors.

- (a) Counselors may be physicians, physician's assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, psychologists, social workers, psychiatric technicians, marriage and family therapists, certified counselors, or others as long as they have training or experience in treating persons with an opiate addiction.
- (b) The protocol shall specify:
  - (1) Which types of staff will be used as counselors, and what their duties and responsibilities will be.
  - (2) The training and experience which qualifies each named counselor.

# **NECESSITY:** Replaced by new (b)

(b) Program staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall be licensed, certified, or registered to obtain certification pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000).

### **NECESSITY: Needed to maintain consistency with Chapter 8**

(c) Program staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall comply with the code of conduct, pursuant to Section 13060, developed by the organization by which they were registered or certified. The licensee shall report violations of the code of conduct to the certifying organization which certified or registered the individual within three (3) working days of receipt of a complaint.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to protect health and safety of patients

- (d) The licensee shall maintain personnel records for all staff containing:
  - (1) Name, address, telephone number, position, duties, and date of employment; and
  - (2) Resumes, applications, and/or transcripts documenting work experience and/or education used to meet the requirements of this regulation.
  - (3) Personnel records for staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall also contain:
    - (A) Written documentation of licensure, certification, or registration to obtain certification pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000); and

(B) A copy of the code of conduct of the registrant's or certified AOD counselor's certifying organization pursuant to Section 13060.

# **NECESSITY: Needed to maintain consistency with Chapter 8**

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11755, 11864 and 11876(a), Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 11876(a), and 11880, Health and Safety Code.

# AMEND RESIDENTIAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG RECOVERY OR TREATMENT PROGRAM SECTION 10564 ONLY AS SHOWN BELOW IN STRIKEOUT AND UNDERLINE:

#### §10564. Personnel Requirements.

- (a) Facility administrator qualifications
  - (1) The facility administrator shall demonstrate abilities and competency in the following areas:
    - (A) Knowledge of the requirements for providing the type of alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment services needed by residents.
    - (B) Knowledge of and ability to comply with applicable laws and regulations.
    - (C) Ability to direct the work of others, when applicable.
    - (D) Ability to develop and manage the facility's alcohol or drug abuse recovery or treatment services and budget.
    - (E) Ability to recruit, employ, train, and evaluate qualified staff, and to terminate employment of staff, if applicable.
  - (2) Each licensee shall make provisions for continuing operation and administration during any absence of the regular administrative personnel.
  - (3) The licensee, if an individual, or any member of the governing board of the licensed corporation or association, shall be permitted to be the facility administrator provided that he/she meets the qualifications specified in this section, and in applicable regulations.

#### (b) Staff Qualifications

- (1) Facility personnel including volunteers shall be competent to provide the services necessary to meet resident needs and shall be adequate in numbers necessary to meet such needs. Competence shall be demonstrated by accrued work, personal, and/or educational experience and/or on-the-job performance.
- (2) The department shall have the authority to require any licensee to provide additional staff whenever the department determines and documents that existing staff is unable to provide services as described in the plan of operation submitted to the department. The licensee shall be informed in writing of the reasons for the department's determination. The following factors shall be taken into consideration in determining the need for additional staff:

- (A) Needs of the residents;
- (B) Extent of the services provided by the facility; and
- (C) Physical arrangements of the particular facility.
- (3) All personnel shall be trained or shall have experience which provides knowledge of the skills required in the following areas, as appropriate to the job assigned, and as evidenced by safe and effective job performance:
  - (A) General knowledge of alcohol and/or drug abuse and the principles of recovery.
  - (B) Housekeeping and sanitation principles.
  - (C) Principles of communicable disease prevention and control.
  - (D) Recognition of early signs of illness and the need for professional assistance.
  - (E) Availability of community services and resources.
  - (F) Recognition of individuals under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
  - (G) Principles of nutrition, food preparation and storage, and menu planning.
- (c) In addition to the requirements of (b) of this regulation, program staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall be licensed, certified, or registered to obtain certification pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000).

# **NECESSITY: Needed to maintain consistency with Chapter 8**

(d) Program staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall comply with the code of conduct, pursuant to Section 13060, developed by the organization by which they were certified or registered. The licensee shall report violations of the code of conduct to the certifying organization which certified or registered the individual within three (3) working days of receipt of a complaint.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to protect health and safety of residents

- (c)(e) All personnel shall be in good health.
  - (1) Except as specified in (3) below, good physical health shall be verified by a health screening, including a test for tuberculosis, performed under

licensed medical supervision not more than 60 days prior to or 7 days after employment with tuberculosis testing renewable every year.

- (A) Personnel with a known record of tuberculosis or record of positive testing shall not be required to be retested if a physician verifies the individual has been under regular care and monitoring for tuberculosis. Such verification will be renewed annually.
- (2) A health screening report signed by the person performing such screening shall be made for each person specified above, and shall indicate the following:
  - (A) The person's physical qualifications to perform assigned duties.
  - (B) The presence of any health condition that would create a hazard to the person, residents or other staff members.
- (3) The good physical health of each volunteer who works in the facility shall be verified by a statement signed by each volunteer affirming that he/she is in good health, and a test for tuberculosis performed under Icensed medical supervision not more than 60 days prior to or 7 days after initial presence in the facility and annually thereafter. At the discretion of the licensee, tuberculosis testing need not be required for volunteers whose functions do not necessitate frequent or prolonged contact with residents.
  - (A) Volunteers with a known record of tuberculosis or record of positive testing shall not be required to be re-tested if a physician verifies the individual has been under regular care and monitoring for tuberculosis. Such verification will be renewed annually.
- (d)(f) Personnel with evidence of physical illness that poses a threat to the health and safety of residents shall be temporarily relieved of their duties.
- (e)(g) Residents shall not be used as substitutes for required staff but shall be permitted to participate in duties and tasks as a voluntary part of their program of activities.
- (f)(h) When regular staff members are absent, there shall be coverage by personnel capable of performing assigned tasks as evidenced by on-the-job performance, experience or training. Residents shall not be utilized to fulfill this requirement.
- (g)(i) Personnel shall provide services without physical or verbal abuse, exploitation or prejudice.
- (h)(j) All personnel shall be instructed to report observation or evidence of violations of personal rights as specified in Section 10569 of this subchapter.

- (i)(k) The licensee shall develop, maintain, and implement an ongoing training program for all staff in the areas identified in Section 10564 (b)(3) of this subchapter in addition to specific training related to their duties. Staff participation in the training program shall be documented and maintained on file for 3 years.
- (j)(l) The licensee shall maintain personnel records for all staff, including program administrators, containing:
  - (1) Name, address, telephone number, position, duties, and date of employment; and
  - (2) Resumes, applications, and/or transcripts documenting work experience and/or education used to meet the requirements of this regulation.
  - (3) Personnel records for staff who provide counseling services (as defined in Section 13005) shall also contain:
    - (A) Written documentation of licensure, certification, or registration to obtain certification pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 13000); and
    - (B) A copy of the code of conduct of the registrant's or certified AOD counselor's certifying organization pursuant to Section 13060.

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to maintain consistency with Chapter 8**

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 11834.50, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 11834.01 and 11834.10 11834.27, Health and Safety Code.

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# Subchapter 3. Requirements for Certification of AOD Counselors

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#### ADOPT SECTIONS 13000 THROUGH 13075 AS SHOWN BELOW:

# **Chapter 8. Certification of Alcohol and Other Drug Counselors.**

### Subchapter 1. Application and Purpose of Chapter and Definitions.

#### § 13000. Application and Purpose of Chapter.

The regulations contained in this Chapter shall apply to all individuals providing counseling services in an alcohol or other drug (AOD) program, to all organizations certifying AOD counselors, and to all AOD programs, as defined in Section 13005.

NECESSITY: Needed to clarify those individuals and other entities subject to the regulations contained in Chapter 8

### § 13005. Definitions.

- (a) The following definitions apply to terminology used in this Chapter:
  - (1) "Alcohol and other drug (AOD) program" means any of the following:
    - (A) A driving under the influence program licensed pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11876), Part 3, Article 3, Division 10.5 of the Health and Safety Code (HSC), and the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 9795), Division 4, Title 9 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR);
    - (B) A narcotic treatment program licensed pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11876), Part 3, Article 3, Division 10.5, HSC, and the provisions of Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 9995), Division 4, Title 9, CCR;
    - (C) A residential alcohol or drug abuse recovery or treatment program licensed pursuant to Chapter 7.5 (commencing with Section 11834.01), Part 2, Division 10.5, HSC, and the provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 10500), Division 4, Title 9, CCR;
    - (D) An alcohol or drug recovery or treatment program certified to receive Medi-Cal reimbursement pursuant to Section 51200, Title 22, CCR;
    - (E) An alcohol or drug recovery or treatment program certified pursuant to Section 11831.5 or 11994, HSC; or
    - (F) An alcohol or drug recovery or treatment program funded pursuant to Part 2, Division 10.5, HSC (commencing with Section 11760).
  - (2) "Certified AOD counselor" means an individual certified by an organization qualified to provide AOD counseling services pursuant to this Section 13035.
  - (3) "Certifying organization" means an organization qualified to certify individuals as AOD counselors, pursuant to Section 13035.
  - (4) "Counseling services" means any of the following activities:
    - (A) Evaluation of participants', patients', or residents' AOD treatment or recovery needs, including screening prior to admission, intake, and assessment of need for services at the time of admission.
    - (B) Development and updating of a treatment or recovery plan.

- (C) Service coordination, including:
  - 1. Implementing the treatment or recovery plan,
  - 2. Continuing assessment and treatment planning, or
  - 3. Conducting individual counseling sessions, group counseling sessions, face-to-face interviews, or counseling for families, couples, and other individuals significant in the life of the participants, patients, or residents.
- (D) Documentation of counseling activities, assessment, treatment and recovery planning, clinical reports related to treatment provided, progress notes, discharge summaries, and all other client related data.
- (5) "Days" means calendar days unless otherwise specified.
- (6) "Department" means the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.
- (7) "Hour" means sixty (60) minutes unless otherwise specified.
- (8) "Registrant" means an individual registered with any certifying organization to obtain certification as an AOD counselor.

#### NECESSITY: All definitions needed to clarify terminology as used in this Chapter

# Subchapter 2. Requirement for Certification for Individuals Providing Counseling Services in AOD Recovery and Treatment Programs.

### § 13010. Requirement for Certification.

- (a) By January 1, 2008, at least a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of program staff providing counseling services in each AOD program shall be certified pursuant to the requirements of this Chapter.
  - NECESSITY: Five years allowed to permit individuals currently employed as AOD counselors to obtain certification while working full time. No more than 50% required to prevent workforce shortage.
- (b) Each AOD program may determine which of the certifying organizations it will recognize by hiring AOD counselors certified by or registered with that/those organization(s).

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to allow program flexibility**

(c) Certification pursuant to this Chapter does not confer on any individual any right or privilege to provide AOD treatment services outside of an AOD program or to practice any other profession for which licensure is required.

NECESSITY: Needed to clarify terms of certification and to protect health and safety. Needed for clarity by establishing Department's authority and certified AOD counselor's right and privileges.

# § 13015. Requirements for Certification of Licensed Professionals.

- (a) As used in this regulation, "licensed professional" means a physician licensed by the Medical Board of California; or a psychologist, licensed clinical social worker, or marriage and family therapist licensed by the California Board of Behavioral Science Examiners.
  - **NECESSITY:** Needed to clarify the type of licensed professionals affected by this regulation
- (b) <u>Licensed professionals, providing counseling services in an AOD program, shall</u> not be required to become certified as AOD counselors pursuant to this Chapter.
  - NECESSITY: Needed because licensed medical and clinical professionals are already trained in AOD problems and counseling
- (c) <u>Licensed professionals, providing counseling services in an AOD program, shall provide to the AOD program by which they are employed, for retention in their personnel files, a copy of their license to practice in the State of California.</u>

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to verify licensure**

(d) Licensed professionals, providing counseling services in an AOD program, shall complete 40 hours of continuing education every two (2) calendar years beginning January 1, 2005. Such continuing education shall be based on the curriculum described in Section 13040 and shall be provided or approved by the AOD program employing the licensed professional or one of the certifying organizations specified in Section 13035.

NECESSITY: Needed to ensure that licensed professionals receive the same kind of ongoing training as other AOD counselors to stay current on latest trends and techniques in counseling and treatment of AOD problems.

# § 13020. Requirements for Previously Certified AOD Counselors.

Any individual who was certified to provide counseling services in an AOD program, by a certifying organization, as of January 1, 2005, shall be deemed certified pursuant to the requirements of this Chapter until his/her certification expires or until January 1, 2005, whichever is sooner. All such individuals shall comply with all other requirements of Subchapter 3 (commencing with Section 13040) of this Chapter.

NECESSITY: Needed to prevent unnecessary burden on individuals who are already certified and to prevent workforce shortage.

(b) Any individual, certified to provide counseling services in an AOD program as of January 1, 2005, shall present to the AOD program by which he/she is employed, for retention in his/her personnel file, a copy of his/her certificate as an AOD counselor.

# **NECESSITY:** Needed to verify prior certification

- (c) To renew certification, the previously certified counselor shall register with a certifying organization and provide the certifying organization with verifiable documentation of his/her current licensure or certification. The certifying organization shall renew the AOD counselor's certification if it:
  - (1) Verifies that the counselor's certification is current, has never been revoked, and is not currently the subject of an investigation by either the Department or the certifying organization which granted it, and
  - (2) Determines by review that the education and experience required by the certifying organization which previously granted certification were similar to the standards contained in Section 13040.

# § 13025. Requirements for Certification by Testing.

Until January 1, 2007, each certifying organization shall certify any individual employed as an AOD counselor as of January 1, 2005, if the individual:

#### **NECESSITY:** 3 years chosen to prevent workforce shortage

(a) Registers to obtain certification with a certifying organization listed in Section 13035;

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to initiate certification process**

(b) Provides written documentation to the certifying organization that he/she has been employed to provide counseling services in an AOD program for the equivalent of forty (40) hours per week for a minimum of five (5) years between January 1, 1994 and January 1, 2005; and

NECESSITY: Needed to provide verification of prior work experience. Work experience must be obtained during five of the ten years preceding adoption of these regulations to ensure that it is recent.

- (c) Achieves a passing score (as determined by the certifying organization) on an oral and/or written examination, administered by:
  - (1) One of the certifying organizations listed in Section 13035, or
  - (2) The Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

NECESSITY: Nationally recognized, standardized test based on the requirements of Section 13040. Needed to verify that registrants have the knowledge needed to provide quality counseling services.

# § 13030. Requirements for Counselors Certified or Licensed in Other States or by Other Certifying Organizations.

- (a) Any certifying organization listed in Section 13035 may, at its option, certify by reciprocity an individual, who is currently certified or licensed in another state to provide counseling services in an AOD program, or is currently certified by an organization other than those listed in Section 13035, if:
  - (1) The individual registers with one of the certifying organizations listed in Section 13035 and provides the certifying organization with verifiable documentation of his/her current licensure or certification,
  - (2) The certifying organization verifies that the registrant's licensure or certification is current, has never been revoked, and is not currently the subject of an investigation by either the Department or the certifying organization which granted it, and
  - (3) The certifying organization determines to its satisfaction that the standards by which the other state or certifying organization granted licensure or certification were similar to the standards contained in this Chapter.

NECESSITY: Needed to provide reciprocity and to prevent undue hardship on counselors certified in other states or by other certifying organizations. Needed to prevent workforce shortage

(b) The registrant/certified AOD counselor shall comply with all the requirements of Subchapter 3 (commencing with Section 13040) of this Chapter.

NECESSITY: Needed for consistency so that counselors certified out of state comply with the same ongoing requirements as counselors certified in California

(c) This regulation shall not prohibit any certifying organization from establishing additional terms and conditions for certification by reciprocity, so long as those terms and conditions do not conflict with the provisions of this Chapter.

**NECESSITY: Needed for flexibility** 

(d) This regulation shall not require any certifying organization to grant certification by reciprocity.

**NECESSITY: Needed for flexibility** 

# Section 13035. Requirements for Certification

- (a) By January 1, 2009, fifty percent (50%) of all individuals performing counseling services in an AOD program shall be licensed, as described in Section 13015, or certified as an AOD counselor by one of the following certifying organizations:
  - (1) The Breining Institute,
  - (2) The California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources,
  - (3) The California Association of AOD Educators,
  - (4) The California Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors,
  - (5) The California Association of Drinking Driver Treatment Programs,
  - (6) The Forensic Addictions Corrections Treatment, or
  - (7) The Indian Alcoholism Commission of California, Inc.,

NECESSITY: 5 years allowed to prevent workforce shortage. These certifying organizations were chosen because they currently certified AOD counselors at the time of adoption of the regulations in this Chapter, they are known to provide quality services as they have a long standing business relationship with the Department, and their curriculum is based on TAP 21 (as defined in Section 13040)

(b) The Department will also recognize any other organization that certifies counselors if it requests in writing that the Department recognize it and it provides written documentation that it complies with all of the requirements of (c) of this regulation, except that the accreditation required by (c)(2) must be in place by the time the organization requests recognition, not necessarily by January 1, 2005.

# **NECESSITY:** Needed for flexibility and to prevent restraint of trade

- (c) The certifying organizations listed in (a) of this regulation shall:
  - (1) Maintain a business office in California, and

### **NECESSITY: Needed for monitoring and accountability**

(2) Become accredited with the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) by January 1, 2005 and shall continuously maintain such accreditation. Certifying organizations may obtain information on NCCA accreditation by contacting the NCCA at 2025 M Street NW, Suite 800, Washington D.C. 20036-3309; telephone (202) 367-1165; internet address www.noca.org; and

NECESSITY: Chosen because NCCA is a nationally recognized organization which accredits various types of licensing or certifying organizations. 2-year window added to allow certifying organizations time to become accredited.

(3) Provide written documentation from the NCCA that the NCCA has determined that the certifying organization complies with the requirements of this Chapter.

**NECESSITY: Needed to verify NCCA accreditation.** 

- (d) If any of the certifying organizations specified in (a) of this regulation fails to comply with (b) of this regulation, within 48 hours following receipt of written notification by the Department that it is no longer approved to certify AOD counselors, the certifying organization shall send written notification to each AOD counselor registered with or certified by the certifying organization, informing him/her of his/her rights and responsibilities, including the following:
  - (1) Before expiration of his/her certification or within six (6) months of the notice (whichever is sooner), the counselor shall register with one of the other certifying organizations listed in (a) of this regulation;
  - (2) For purposes of this Chapter, the AOD counselor's certification remains valid until it expires only if the certified counselor re-registers as required by (c)(1) of this regulation;
  - (3) The new certifying organization shall give credit for any continuing education credits earned while certified by the former certifying organization; and
  - (4) The new certifying organization shall give registrants sufficient credit for education and experience completed to place the registrant at an equivalent level in the new certifying organization.

# **NECESSITY:** Needed to prevent undue hardship to registrants

- (e) By July 1, 2005 or within six (6) months of the date of hire, whichever is later, all non-licensed or non-certified individuals providing counseling services in an AOD program shall be registered to obtain certification as an AOD counselor by one of the certifying organizations specified in this regulation.
  - (1) Registrants shall complete certification as an AOD counselor within five (5) years of the date of registration.

NECESSITY: Needed to allow a reasonable time for registrants to complete certification while working full time.

(2) The certifying organization may allow up to two (2) years additional time for a leave of absence due to medical problem or other hardship, consistent with the policy developed by the certifying organization; and

**NECESSITY: Needed to prevent undue hardship.** 

(3) No certifying organization shall register an individual, who was previously registered but did not complete AOD certification, for one (1) year from the date that the individual left the certifying organization with which he/she was previously registered.

NECESSITY: Needed to prevent registrants from taking more than 5 years to complete certification by re-registering with a new certifying organization.

#### **Subchapter 3. Requirements for Certification of AOD Counselors**

#### § 13040. Requirements for Initial Certification of AOD Counselors.

<u>Prior to certification as an AOD counselor, the certifying organization shall require each registrant to:</u>

- (a) Complete a minimum of 155 documented hours of AOD education, which shall include at least the following subjects:
  - (1) The curriculum contained in "Addiction Counseling Competencies: The Knowledge, Skills, and Attitudes of Professional Practice", Technical Assistance Publication Series 21(TAP 21), published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Reprinted 2002;
  - (2) Provision of services to special populations such as aging individuals; individuals with co-occurring disorders (e.g., alcoholism and mental illness); individuals with disabilities; gay, lesbian, or transgendered individuals; individuals with cultural differences, individuals on probation/parole, etc.;
  - (3) Ethics;
  - (4) Communicable diseases including tuberculosis, Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and Hepatitis C; and
  - (5) Prevention of sexual harassment;

NECESSITY: TAP 21 is a nationally recognized curriculum used for certification of AOD counselors. Needed to ensure that AOD counselors are well versed in all areas of AOD treatment. Minimum of 155 hours chosen to accommodate all organizations currently certifying AOD counselors at the time of adoption of this regulation.

- (b) Complete a minimum of 160 documented hours of supervised AOD training based on the curriculum contained in TAP 21 [as defined in (a) of this regulation] and supervised on-site by an AOD counselor who has been licensed or certified pursuant to this Chapter. As used in this regulation, "supervised" means that the individual supervising the training shall:
  - (1) Be physically present and available on site or at an immediately adjacent site, but not necessarily in the same room at all times, and

(2) <u>Document in the registrant's record that the registrant has completed the</u> supervised training required by this subsection.

NECESSITY: Needed to ensure that all certified counselors have supervised experience applying what they learned in the classroom before working without supervision. Minimum of 160 hours chosen to accommodate all organizations currently certifying AOD counselors at the time of adoption of this regulation.

(c) Complete, following completion of the education and supervised training specified in (a) and (b) of this regulation, a minimum 2,080 documented hours of paid or unpaid work experience providing counseling services in an AOD program;

NECESSITY: Needed to ensure that all counselors are experienced by the time of certification. 2,080 hours equals approximately one year of 40-hour workweeks.

(d) Pass a written or oral examination approved by the certifying organization;

**NECESSITY: Needed to ensure competency** 

(e) Sign a statement documenting whether his/her prior certification as an AOD counselor has ever been revoked; and

NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060

(f) Sign an agreement to abide by the certifying organization's code of conduct, developed pursuant to Section 13060.

NECESSITY: Needed for monitoring and accountability and to verify that certified AOD counselors are familiar with the code of conduct developed pursuant to Section 13060

# § 13045. Issuance of Certification as an AOD Counselor.

- (a) Prior to certifying a registrant as an AOD counselor, the certifying organization shall contact all other certifying organizations listed in Section 13035 to determine if the registrant's certification was ever revoked.
  - NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060
- (b) If previous certification was revoked, the certifying organization shall document in the registrant's file its reasons for granting or denying certification. Within 48 hours of granting certification, the certifying organization shall send written notification to the Department that it has granted certification to a registrant whose previous certification was revoked.
  - NECESSITY: Needed to allow flexibility to re-certify someone whom the certifying organization has determined is rehabilitated. Notice needed to allow the Department to appeal the re-certification.
- (c) If the certifying organization denies certification it shall send the registrant a written notice of denial. The notice shall specify the registrant's right to appeal the denial in accordance with the provisions of Section 13070.
  - NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060
- (d) If the certifying organization decides to grant certification, upon completion of all program requirements, as specified in Section 13040, and payment of all fees charged by the certifying organization, the certifying organization shall issue a written certificate to the registrant, stating that he/she is certified as an AOD counselor.

**NECESSITY:** Needed to clarify how registrant becomes certified

# § 13050. Length of Certification.

<u>Certification as an AOD counselor shall be valid for two (2) years from the date of certification, unless renewed pursuant to Section 13055 or revoked pursuant to Section 13065.</u>

NECESSITY: 2 years chosen for consistency with length of licensure or certification in other counseling fields

#### § 13055. Renewal of Certification.

(a) In order to renew certification, the certifying organization shall require each certified AOD counselor to complete a minimum of forty (40) hours of continuing education, approved by the certifying organization, during each two-year period of certification.

# NECESSITY: Needed to maintain quality of counseling services by requiring ongoing education

- (b) The forty (40) hours of continuing education shall include the following:
  - (1) The curriculum contained TAP 21, as defined in Section 13040;
  - (2) Provision of services to special populations such as aging individuals; individuals with co-occurring disorders (e.g., alcoholism and mental illness); individuals with disabilities; gay, lesbian, or transgendered individuals; individuals with cultural differences, individuals on probation/parole, etc.;
  - (3) Ethics;
  - (4) Communicable diseases including tuberculosis, Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndron (HIV/AIDS), and Hepatitis C; and
  - (5) Prevention of sexual harassment.

# NECESSITY: Needed to maintain consistency with Section 13040 so that counselors obtain ongoing education in AOD issues

(c) At the certifying organization's discretion, the forty (40) hours of continuing education may also include other topics related to the field of alcoholism and drug abuse such as residential treatment, driving-under-the-influence, etc.

# **NECESSITY: Needed for flexibility**

(d) The certifying organization shall document completion of all continuing education hours and the subject matter studied in each certified AOD counselor's record maintained pursuant to Section 13075.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed for monitoring and accountability

(e) Prior to renewing certification, the certifying organization shall review the AOD counselor's record to determine if his/her certification has been revoked during the previous certification period.

NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060

- If previous certification was revoked, the certifying organization shall document in the registrant's file its reasons for granting or denying renewal of certification.

  Within 48 hours of renewing certification, the certifying organization shall send written notification to the Department that it has renewed certification of an AOD counselor whose previous certification was revoked.
  - NECESSITY: Needed to allow flexibility to re-certify someone whom the certifying organization has determined is rehabilitated. Notice needed to allow the Department to appeal the re-certification.
- (g) If the certifying organization denies renewal, it shall send the AOD counselor a written notice of denial. The notice shall specify the counselor's right to appeal the denial in accordance with the provisions of Section 13070.
  - NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060
- (h) If the certifying organization decides to renew certification, upon completion of all continuing education requirements and payment of all fees charged by the certifying organization, the certifying organization shall issue a written certificate to the registrant, stating that his/her certification as an AOD counselor has been renewed.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to clarify how registrant becomes certified

- (i) If the AOD counselor's previous certification was revoked, the certifying organization shall deny renewal of certification and shall send the AOD counselor a written notice of denial of renewal. The notice shall specify the AOD counselor's right to appeal the denial in accordance with the procedure established in Section 13070.
  - NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060
- (j) If certification as an AOD counselor has not been revoked, the certifying organization shall renew the AOD counselor's certification upon documentation of completion of a minimum of forty (40) hours of continuing education and payment of a renewal fee as specified by the certifying organization.

# NECESSITY: Needed to clarify how counselors shall be re-certified

#### § 13060. Code of Conduct.

(a) Each certifying organization shall require registrants and certified AOD counselors to comply with a code of conduct developed by the certifying organization in compliance with the requirements of this regulation.

# NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents

- (b) At a minimum, the code of conduct shall require registrants and certified AOD counselors to:
  - (1) Comply with a code of conduct developed by the certifying organization;
  - (2) Protect the participant's, patient's, or resident's rights to confidentiality in accordance with Subpart 2, Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations;
  - (3) Cooperate with complaint investigations and supply information requested during complaint investigations unless such disclosure of information would violate the confidentiality requirements of Subpart 2, Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to clarify requirements of code of conduct

- (c) At a minimum, the code of conduct shall prohibit registrants and certified AOD counselors from:
  - (1) Providing counseling services, attending any program services or activities, or being present on program premises while under the influence of any amount of alcohol or illicit drugs. As used in this subsection, "illicit drugs" means any substance defined as a drug in Section 11014, Chapter 1, Division 10, Health and Safety Code, except:
    - (A) Drugs or medications prescribed by a physician or other person authorized to prescribe drugs, in accordance with Section 4036, Chapter 9, Division 2, Business and Professions Code, and used in the dosage and frequency prescribed; or
    - (B) Over-the-counter drugs or medications used in the dosage and frequency described on the box, bottle, or package insert.
  - (2) Providing services beyond the terms and conditions of his/her certificate as an AOD counselor or his/her professional license, if the individual is a licensed professional as defined in Section 13015;
  - (3) <u>Discriminating against program participants, patients, residents, or other staff members, based on race, religion, age, gender, disability, national ancestry, sexual orientation, or economic condition;</u>

- (4) Engaging in social or business relationships for personal gain with program participants, patients, or residents, their family members or other persons who are significant to them;
- (5) Engaging in sexual conduct with current participants, patients, residents, their family members, or other persons who are significant to them;
- (6) Verbally, physically, or sexually harassing, threatening, or abusing any participant, patient, resident, their family members, other persons who are significant to them, or other staff members.

NECESSITY: Needed to clarify prohibitions of code of conduct needed to protect health and safety and prevent abuse

(d) At its discretion the certifying organization may chose to exclude any conviction(s) for usage or possession of drugs or alcohol, which occurred prior to the time of registration for certification as an AOD counselor, as a violation of the code of conduct.

NECESSITY: Needed to prevent workforce shortage because many individuals who become AOD counselors are themselves recovering from alcoholism or drug abuse and may have prior convictions

(e) Each certifying organization shall notify registrants and AOD counselors, in writing, of any changes to its code of conduct.

**NECESSITY:** Needed for clarity so that registrants and counselors know what is expected of them

(f) Certifying organizations and AOD programs may impose more stringent standards at their discretion.

**NECESSITY: Needed to allow flexibility** 

# § 13065. Investigation of Complaints, Suspension, and Revocation.

(a) Any person or AOD program may request the Department to investigate alleged violations of the certifying organization's code of conduct by a registrant or a certified AOD counselor. Such request may be made by contacting the Department in person, by telephone, in writing, or by any automated or electronic means, such as e-mail or fax.

**NECESSITY:** Needed to clarify how to request an investigation

(b) The request shall include a statement of facts concerning the alleged violation.

**NECESSITY: Needed to facilitate investigation of the complaint** 

(c) The Department shall investigate each alleged violation.

**NECESSSITY: Needed to ensure objective investigation** 

(d) Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request for investigation, the Department shall send a written order to the certifying organization specifying what corrective action (if any) it shall take, based on the Department's investigation and the severity of the violation.

**NECESSITY: Needed to ensure a prompt investigation** 

(e) If the Department orders the certifying organization to temporarily suspend or revoke a counselor's certification or registration in order to protect the health, safety, or welfare of participants, patients, or residents, the certifying organization shall so inform the counselor and the AOD program employing the counselor or registrant in person or by telephone, with written notification to follow, immediately upon receipt of the written order from the Department. If the Department does not recommend temporary suspension or revocation, within ten (10) days of receipt of the written order from the Department, the certifying organization shall send written notification to the counselor or registrant and the AOD program employing him/her, informing them of the results of the investigation. The written notification shall inform the counselor or registrant of his/her right to administrative review pursuant to Section 13070.

NECESSITY: Immediate notification needed to protect client health and safety. Written notification needed to inform the counselor or registrant of the outcome of the investigation and to provide due process.

(f) The same day that the certifying organization sends written notification to the counselor or registrant, it shall document in its database (pursuant to Section 13075) the violation alleged, the outcome of the Department's investigation, and what action the certifying organization took based on the Department's investigation.

NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060

#### § 13070. Administrative Review.

(a) The Department may initiate administrative review if a certifying organization registers or certifies an individual whose previous registration or certification was revoked.

### NECESSITY: Needed to protect health, safety, and welfare of clients

(b) A counselor or registrant whose registration or certification was denied, temporarily suspended, or revoked may request an informal review by sending a written request for review to the Director, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, 1700 K Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to clarify how to request an administrative review

- (c) The written request for review shall be postmarked within fifteen (15) working days of the date of the written notice of denial, temporary suspension, or revocation. The written request for review shall state:
  - (1) The alleged violation of the code of conduct which is at issue and the basis for review.
  - (2) The facts supporting the request for review.

### **NECESSITY: Information needed to begin review**

(d) Failure to submit the written request for review, pursuant to Subsection (b) of this regulation, shall be deemed a waiver of administrative review.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to limit time to file an appeal

- (e) Within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of the request for review, the Director or the Director's designee shall schedule and hold an informal conference to review the Department's determination, unless:
  - (1) The counselor or registrant waives the fifteen (15) day requirement, or
  - (2) The Director or the Director's designee and the counselor or registrant agree to settle the matter based upon the information submitted with the request for review.

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to expedite administrative review**

- (f) At the informal conference, the counselor or registrant shall have the right to:
  - (1) Be represented by legal counsel,

- (2) Present oral and written evidence, and
- (3) Explain any mitigating circumstances.

### **NECESSITY: Needed to ensure due process**

- (g) The representatives of the Department who conducted the investigation shall and their attorney may:
  - (1) Attend the informal conference, and
  - (2) Present oral and/or written evidence and information substantiating the alleged violation.

# **NECESSITY:** Needed to ensure that Department's interests are represented at the review

(h) The informal conference shall be conducted as an informal proceeding. The conference shall not be conducted in the manner of a judicial hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act [Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), Part 1, Division 3, Title 2 of the Government Code], and need not be conducted according to the technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses.

### **NECESSITY: Needed to expedite informal review**

(I) Neither the counselor or registrant nor the Department shall have the right to subpoena any witness to attend the informal conference. However, both the counselor or registrant and the Department may call witnesses to present evidence and information at the conference.

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to expedite informal review**

(j) The proceedings of the informal conference may be recorded on audio tape by either party.

# **NECESSITY:** Needed to maintain a record of the proceedings for review if formal review is requested

- (k) The Department shall mail its decision to affirm, modify, or dismiss the notice of denial, suspension, or revocation to the counselor or registrant. The decision shall:
  - (1) Be postmarked no later than fifteen (15) working days from the date of the informal conference.
  - (2) Specify the reason for affirming, modifying, or dismissing the suspension or revocation.

(3) Include a statement notifying the counselor or registrant of his/her right to appeal the decision made at the informal conference in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) Part 1, Division 3, Title 2 of the Government Code.

#### **NECESSITY:** Needed to expedite informal review, provide due process

- (I) The counselor or registrant may appeal the decision made at the informal conference by submitting a written request to the Director of the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, 1700 K Street, Sacramento, California, 95814, postmarked no later than fifteen (15) working days from the date of the decision. Upon receipt of the request for appeal, the Department shall:
  - (1) Request the Office of Administrative Hearings to set the matter for hearing, and
  - (2) Notify the counselor or registrant of the time and place of the hearing.

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to provide due process**

(m) Failure of the counselor or registrant to submit a written request to appeal the decision made at the informal conference postmarked within 10 working days from the date of the decision shall be deemed a waiver of further administrative review and the decision of the Director or the Director's designee shall be deemed final.

#### **NECESSITY: Needed to limit time allowed for appeal**

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11755, 11834.50, 11836.15, and 11864 of the Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 11833, 11834.27, 11836, 11836.15, 11876, and 11880 of the Health and Safety Code; and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), Part 1, Division 3, of Title 2, Government Code.

#### § 13075. Maintenance of Records.

- (a) The certifying organization shall maintain an automated electronic database, containing a record for each registrant or counselor the organization has certified. The record shall document:
  - (1) Completion of all education and work experience required pursuant to Section 13040;
  - (2) Certification to provide counseling services in an AOD program;
  - (3) Renewal of certification;
  - (4) Investigation and outcome of the investigation of any complaints alleging violations of the code of conduct developed pursuant to Section 13060; and
  - (5) Temporary suspension or revocation of certification pursuant to Section13065; and
  - (6) The final outcome of any appeal of temporary suspension or revocation adjudicated pursuant to Section 13070.

NECESSITY: Needed to protect health and safety of participants, patients, and residents by preventing re-certification of individuals whose certification was previously revoked for violating the code of conduct specified in Section 13060

(b) The database shall be electronically accessible by the Department and by the public.

**NECESSSITY: Needed for monitoring and accountability and to protect health and safety** 

(c) The information contained in the database shall be updated daily and kept current at all times.

NECESSITY: Needed to ensure that information contained in the database is current. Needed to protect health and safety.

(d) The certifying organization shall retain the information kept in the database for five (5) years from the date of initial certification, denial, last renewal, temporary suspension, or revocation, whichever occurs last.

**NECESSITY:** Needed in case of request for administrative review

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 11755, 11834.50, 11836.15, and 11864 of the Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 11833, 11834.27, 11836, 11836.15, 11876, and 11880 of the Health and Safety Code.

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